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Montana Post

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From The Director

by Arnie Olsen

When people tell me they've been to the Society, I usually tell them that if it wasn't recently, they've probably already missed something new and exciting.

On January 7 in honor of the current legislative session and our state capitol centennial, we opened a new exhibit just west of the capitol rotunda near the secretary of state's office. Called "The Blessings of Liberty: Montana's Constitutions," the exhibit offers people an opportunity to learn about the 1884, 1889, and 1972 constitutions and see the documents upon which our freedoms as Montanans are based. There also are mementos from the 1889 Constitutional Convention, including the gavel and items collected and donated by participants. We hope to raise the funds from the private sector necessary to make the exhibit permanent so all who tour the capitol in the future can enjoy it.

On February 12 we officially opened "Documenting the Corps of Discovery," an exhibit that highlights the Society's extraordinary collections related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The exhibit includes original letters

signed by Lewis and Clark; an 1803 Jefferson Peace Medallion like those presented to Native American leaders during the journey, re-struck from the original mold; a rare 1807 edition of the expedition journals of Sergeant Patrick Gass, the first account published by any member of the expedition; memorabilia from the Lewis and Clark Centennial held in the early 1900s; and much more.

In addition to being interesting in its own right, the new exhibit offers visitors information that will help them prepare for the Bicentennial. I am impressed with the collections that we have relating to the expedition, many of which are highlighted in this exhibit. Our librarians, archivists, historic preservationists, and museum staff stand ready to assist the public in using our vast resources for projects across the state to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the expedition.

I am also excited about another exhibit currently in the works. When I came to the Society as director three-and-a-half years ago, the staff got a little weary of me saying "WOW!" as I learned more about what is held here for the people of Montana. The "Treasure State Treasures" exhibit, which opens to the public on April 10, 2003, will feature prized artifacts held by the Society. These are things I hope will make you say "WOW," as well.

In conjunction with the exhibit, we are asking people to participate in an informal survey to find out what objects or places Montanans hold most dear. The results of the survey will be discussed this fall at the annual Montana History Conference and in *Montana The Magazine of Western History*. We would like your help.

What we want you to do is make a list ranked in order of importance to you of your top five Treasure State treasures. We also want you to add a sentence or two explaining your choices. You can mail your list to "Treasure State Treasures," Montana's Museum, PO Box 201201, Helena MT 59620,1201, or e-mail klambert@mt.gov . To learn more about the survey, visit www.montanahistoricalsociety.org . Responses are due by June 1, 2003.

Your responses should focus on tangible items or places, rather than historical figures or abstract themes. Your list may include artifacts, art, documents, photographs, buildings, or historic and pre-historic sites; whatever you chose, it should still be in existence, regardless of condition. When people ask in a hundred years what Montanans in 2003 thought were their special treasures, your voice will be heard.

Someday, I hope to see a museum exhibit facility worthy of the tremendous collection the Society holds for the people of Montana. In the meantime, I hope you will come enjoy our new exhibits, research in our collections, and continue to help us raise awareness of Montana's rich history.

History Happenings

- *The Post* is published four times a year: Spring and Fall editions are distributed through the mail in a traditional printed format. Winter and Summer editions are available on-line at our website: www.montanahistoricalsociety.org, via e-mail, and, for those who request it, as a text-only paper printout through the mail. **Would you like the *Montana Post* to be e-mailed to you?** Please send an e-mail message, subject matter "subscribe," to mkohl@mt.gov .
- On January 15, 2003, the State Historic Preservation Office and Governor Judy Martz presented the **2003 Historic Preservation Awards**. Harry Gottwals, of Billings Depot, Inc., and Dennis Deppmeier, of A&E Architects, received the governor's special award for the Billings Depot restoration. Other award winners included archaeologist Les Davis, historic architect Ken Sievert, and Great Falls/Cascade County Historic Preservation Officer Ellen Sievert. In addition National Register of Historic Places certificates of registration were presented to twenty-six owners whose properties were listed within the past two years.
- Volunteers are needed in **Virginia City**, May 30–June 1, 2003, for a **work weekend**. In past years, volunteers have pulled weeds, constructed boardwalks, and performed other necessary jobs. Lodging will be provided free of charge. For more information contact Charlotte Sanddal at 406-442-4735.
- The Library and Archives Program is delighted to announce the arrival of **Jennie Stapp**, Technical Services Librarian. Jennie, a native of Columbia Falls, holds a bachelor's degree from MSU-Billings and a masters degree in library science from the University of Arizona. Jennie replaces Vivian Hayes, who retired after nearly twenty years with the Society. Among her other duties, Jennie will be in charge of the library's migration to the new electronic catalog.
- The **Montana Archaeological Society** annual meeting for 2003 is scheduled for April 25–27, 2003, in Hamilton. For conference registration information, please contact MAS president Michael Beckes at beckes@bigsky.net , or see the MAS newsletter, posted on the web at www.cot.msubillings.edu/MAS .
- The theme for this year's **National Preservation Week**—celebrated in Montana and across the country May 5–11, 2003—will be "Cities, Suburbs and Countryside." Activities will take place across Montana to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts throughout the state. We will post information on Montana Preservation Week activities at www.montanahistoricalsociety.org as information becomes available.

- The Society will hold its annual **volunteer appreciation event** on April 23, 2003. Last year our volunteers donated 9,556 hours to the Society, and their organization, the Friends of the Society, donated $1,500 to the Society for special projects. The money was instrumental in preparing a new education space, which will serve as a classroom for visiting school groups. To become a Friend of the Society, contact Delight Sullivan at dsullivan@mt.gov or 406-444-9553.
- On March 6, 2003, two new honorees—Butte physician and Museum of the Rockies founder Dr. Caroline McGill (1879–1959) and noted Blackfeet sculptor John L. Clarke (1881–1970)—were inducted into the "**Gallery of Outstanding Montanans**." Members of the public joined state officials, friends, and family in paying tribute to these two individuals who made unique and lasting contributions to Montana's heritage.
- **Paul Schullery** and **Lee Whittlesey** have joined the editorial board of *Montana The Magazine of Western History*. Schullery's books on fly-fishing, Yellowstone National Park's ecology, and, most recently, grizzly bears have garnered him national acclaim. Whittlesey's encyclopedic knowledge of Yellowstone's history and his publications have made him an invaluable resource for park visitors and researchers.
- On December 2, 2002, **Marcella Sherfy** left the position of Chief of Heritage Operations. She remains at the Society, however, as Education Director of the Montana Heritage Project, where she will be working with Project Director Mike Umphrey and Project Manager Katherine Mitchell. The Heritage Project, funded by the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation, encourages high school students to ask critical questions about their region's past, conduct primary source research, and provide their communities with the results of their work.
- The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will offer **Section 106 Training** in Helena, May 20–21, 2003. The course—"Introduction to Section 106 Review"—explains the requirements and procedures of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (1966) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), which apply any time a federal or federally assisted project might affect a property listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The registration fee is $450 and one optional graduate course unit is available for an additional fee. For more information e-mail swilmoth@mt.gov or nkochan@achp.gov , or call Stan Wilmoth at 406-444-7719.
- In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Dola Wilson and Charles M. Boucher compiled biographical sketches of **Miles City–area cowboys and ranchers** to accompany photographs then displayed in the Range Riders Bar and Restaurant. These photographs are now on display at the Miles City Range Riders Museum. Wilson's son Keith Wilson donated the biographical files and the original negatives to the Montana Historical Society. A wonderful source for genealogists and people interested in the history of ranch life in the Miles City area, these files have now been organized and indexed and are available to researchers.
- *Montana The Magazine of Western History*is pleased to announce the 2003 competition for the **Merrill G. Burlingame–K. Ross Toole Award**. The award will be given to the best article-length manuscript written by an undergraduate or graduate student on any western history topic. The award includes a $150 cash award, plaque, and consideration of the article for publication. To be eligible, students must be enrolled and sponsored by a faculty member. All manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced, and conform to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 14th edition. Applicants should send manuscripts, a cover letter, and letter of sponsorship to Burlingame–Toole Award, *Montana The Magazine of Western History*, Montana Historical Society, P.O. Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201. The deadline for submitting manuscripts is May 31, 2003.

New Preservation Plan Looks toward the Future

The Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Montana Historical Society, is pleased to announce the completion of Montana's revised statewide historic preservation plan, "Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA: The Montana Historic Preservation Plan, 2003–2007." The revised plan was developed over the past year and a half in consultation with interested parties across the state. The National Park Service, which oversees federal funding of state historic preservation offices and their planning efforts, approved the plan on December 9, 2002.

"Working Together to PRESERVE MONTANA" describes and assesses historic resources in Montana, identifies some of the challenges and issues facing the preservation community, and highlights accomplishments, threats, and opportunities. Most importantly, it sets forth the goals that will guide the work of the State Historic Preservation Office and shape Montana's preservation efforts over the next five years.

The planning process identified five main goals for the State Historic Preservation Office: to foster a preservation ethic for Montana's heritage properties; to identify, evaluate, and recognize Montana's heritage properties; to create and support a statewide source for information about Montana heritage properties and historic preservation; to encourage the involvement of Montana's tribes in historic preservation; and to work effectively with all agencies, organizations, and individuals for good stewardship and sensitive treatment of Montana's heritage properties.

Following final editing and formatting, the plan will be posted on the SHPO website,

www.montanahistoricalsociety.org .

To receive a hard copy of the fifty-page document, please contact Marlene Carbis at the State Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202, e-mail mcarbis@mt.gov , or call 406-444-7715.

Virginia City Preservation Team Expands Training Program

Learn how to preserve log buildings and the fundamentals of building stabilization through two courses offered this spring by the Virginia City Institute. "Round and Hewn Log Structure Stabilization and Preservation" (May 12–16, 2003) and "Fundamentals of Building Stabilization" (May 19–23, 2003) will offer both formal and hands-on training on the fundamentals of building stabilization and repair.

Taught by preservation specialists, Virginia City Institute courses are developed by the Virginia City Preservation Team in conjunction with members of the National Park Service and are offered at a low cost to anyone interested in historic preservation. The target audience includes tradespersons, carpenters, architects, archaeologists, homeowners, museum personnel, students, and federal, state, county, and non-profit personnel responsible for historic buildings. The courses are usually limited to twenty participants to assure opportunity for hands-on experience.

Available on the Institute's website (www.virginiacityinstitute.com) is additional information and registration forms.

New Educational Resources Available On-Line

The Education Office is proud to announce the completion of twenty-two new educational outreach kits (footlockers). The project was funded by a grant from the E. L. Wiegand Foundation of Reno, Nevada. The eleven new footlockers, and their duplicates, contain reproduction artifacts, photographs, documents, and lessons for use in the classroom.

The user guides for the footlockers, which include historical narratives, lessons, vocabulary, and bibliographies, are also available online for teachers to access prior to receiving the footlockers. Some of the new footlocker titles are "East Meets West: The Chinese Experience in Montana," "From Traps to Caps: The Montana Fur Trade," and "Gold, Silver, and Coal, Oh My!: Mining Montana's Wealth."

Also new online is "Montana Ancient Teachings: A Curriculum for Montana Archaeology and Prehistory." This curriculum, created by an elementary school teacher and an archaeologist, is intended for use in elementary and middle school classes. It is an introduction to the world of archaeology and what archaeologists have learned about Montana prehistory through archaeology and related scientific disciplines. The "Stone and Bones: Prehistoric Tools from Montana's Past" footlocker can be used as a companion piece to several of the lessons. View the footlocker user guides and Ancient Teachings curriculum online at www.montanahistoricalsociety.org.

We Want to Hear From You

What do you hold most dear from Montana's past? The Montana Historical Society wants to know. In conjunction with the upcoming "Treasure State Treasures" exhibit, the Society is conducting an informal survey to determine which of the state's numerous historic treasures hold the most meaning for twenty-first-century Montanans.

Historic treasures come in many shapes and sizes, and survey participants are encouraged to think broadly about what makes them feel connected to the past. Responses, should, however, focus on subjects that are tangible items or places (rather than historical figures or abstract themes) and are still in existence.

To participate in the survey, compile a list—ranked in order—of your top five Treasure State treasures. To return your response, visit the Society's website at www.montanahistoricalsociety.org; send an e-mail to klambert@mt.gov ; or send a letter to "Treasure State Treasures," c/o Montana's Museum, P.O. Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201.

Accessions

The Montana Historical Society is grateful to the 261 organizations, businesses, and individuals who donated works of art, artifacts, archival materials, books, education materials, and photographs to the Society in 2002.

The Society continues to welcome donations and encourages anyone interested in donating items to contact

the following individuals: Charlene Porsild, library and archives (406-444-4775, cporsild@mt.gov); Lory Morrow, photograph archives (406-444-4714, dmorrow@mt.gov); or Kirby Lambert, museum (406-444-4711, klambert@mt.gov).

Special thanks to all 2002 donors

Aarstad, Rich

Addy, Jane

Akana, Betty

Alley, Nancy

American Legion of Montana

Amudson, John

Antonioli, William

Arkwright Family

Armstrong, Henry L.

Austin, Patricia

Axline, Jon

Baird, Dennis

Balfour, Lucille

Baraby, Charles

Barry, Beth

Baumler, Ellen

Bauman, Jeanne

Bazelow, Richard

Beck, Judy

Bergam, Donald

Bevan, Mary Jo Shearer

Bittner, Denise

Board, John C.

Boyd, Richard

Bradshaw, Glenda

Brandsma, Joyce

Brent, Bob

Brophy, Jane

Brown, Bill

Brown, Bob, Secretary of State

Brown, Margaret

Bruske, Martin J. Bough

Bungi, Gerald

Buswell, Richard S.

Calvi, Jim

Carlson, Agnes

Campbell, Janet, for the Estate of Mary Alice Harrell

Carroll College

Cason, Helen

Cassidy, Judy

Cathcart, Eunice, Estate of

Chambers, Gus

Chanute Public Library (Kansas)

Chaudet, Annette

Clallam County Historical Society

Clark, Jane

Clark, Robert M.

Close, Patricia

Columbia Paint and Coatings

Coombs, Leonard

Cooney Convalescent Home

Cullen, Anne

Currie, Earl

Dahlberg, Harry W.

Danzer's Paint Store

Davidson, Winifred Ann Atlas

Defendorf, Gordon

Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Alpha Mu State

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DesRosier, Fred

Dickenson, Janice

Diehl, Peggy Toman

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Dosker, Richard J.

Dumas, Jeffrey

Dyer, Doris

Dyer, Kathy

Efteland, Raymond J.

Eighorn, Jim

Ellis, Margaret

Emery, Walter

Fasbender, Frank

Fehlig, Kathryn

Fenalson, Rev. Edward

Fischer, Carol

Fisher, Joseph and Allie

Flying D Ranch

Franks, Jim

Gallas, Kristin

Gardner, Joanne, for the Estate of Patricia O'Hara Anderson

Goodall, Don A.

Graetz, Rick and Susie

Granby, Ken

Green, Randall T., for the Estate of Joe Bensen

Greiner, W. L.

Grensten, Gene A.

Hagener, Toni

Hamilton, Rose

Hammon, Neal E.

Hargrove, Claud

Heierman, Will

Helena Chamber of Commerce

Helena National Forest

Helena Sand and Gravel Co.

Heritage Soroptomist Club, Helena

Hill, Representative Rick and Betty

Holter Museum of Art

Holz, Molly

Homer, Dennis

Howard, Dora

Howland, Belle

Hubbard, Martha

Hutcheon, Nancy L. for the Estate of Helen Nash

Idaho State Historical Society Archives

Imhoff, Chris M.

Immonen, Wilma

Institute for Regional Studies and North Dakota State University Archives

James, Ted

Jenkins, Robert

Jenks, James

Jones, Marguerite

Jones-Wallace, Roberta

Junior, James

Karsmizki, Carolyn

Kellogg, Ken

Kizewic, Dick

Kohl, Rebecca

Kosman, John

KUFM-TV Montana PBS

Lambert, Kirby

Lane, G. Gardner

Levy, William, for descendents of Lewis Hershfield

Lewis and Clark Genealogy Society

Lewis and Clark Public Library

Lewistown City Library

Linder, Marc

Littlefield, Alice

Livesay, Drew

Ludeman, Karin P.

Lundby, Theresse

Mandeville, Patricia

Mansfield, James, Estate of

Mansfield, Margaret

Marks, Robert and Douglas

Marshall, Doris

Mason, Greg

McBride, Eldora

McGee, Warren

McGonigle, Dee

Meadow Gold Dairy

Meyer, Barbara Hanley

Miller, Carolyn G.

Miller, Mark

Mitchell, Deb

Moncure, June

Montana Audubon

Montana Bureau of Mines

Montana Capitol Restoration Foundation

Montana Chamber of Commerce

Montana Democratic Party

Montana Department of Corrections

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Montana Department of Labor and Industry

Montana Department of Military Affairs

Montana Department of Transportation

Montana Nurses Association

Montana Office of Secretary of State

Montana Power Company

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Montana State Governor's Office

Morgan, Robert F.

Morrow, Delores

Mosdal-O'Brien, Kathy

Mullarky, Patrick

Munger, Mary

Nash, Helen Esther, bequest of

Native Plant Society

Near, Susan R.

Noble, Robert E.

Northwestern University Library

Nugent, Patty

O'Donnell, Jim

O'Neil, Carle

Olsen, Arnold

Olund, Harry A.

Omholt, Audrey

Ostby, Riley

Pagett, Karen

Parmly Billings Library

Paul Meek Library

Paulding County Carnegie Library (Ohio)

Peterson, Gordon

Phillips, James L.

Porsild, Charlene

Quick, Shirley

Reichert, Paul

Reilly, Tom

Reiman, Vic

Richardson, Barbara E.

Ricketts, Virginia

Rickman, Mike

Roath, Pat

Rocheleau, J. E.

Rogers, Clara C.

Rogers, Dick

Rogers, Linda

Rose, Karen

Rubin, Barbara

Russell, Jay

Ryan, Linda and Mike

Safford, Jeff

San Jose Public Library

Sands, Diane

Schmidt, John H., DVM

Schmidt, Susan

Schneirder, Harley

Schroeder, Carl

Schwinden, Ted

Seagraves, Anne

Seelye, June

Sexton, Robert E.

Sherfy, Marcella

Shopko

Shovers, Brian

Sidor, Joe

Simundson, Merlin O.

Sinnatt, Donna

Siple, Greg

Smithsonian Institution

Smitty’s Fireplace Shop

South Dakota Historical Society

South Stacey Reunion Committee

Spence, Clark C.

Sperry, Janet

Spokane Public Library (Washington)

Stevens, Lynn

Stoner, John

Story, Joel

Suta, Benjamin E.

Target Stores

Taylor, Clark and Paula

Thompson, Alan

Tibbles, Leah

Tobosa, Liz

Trerise, Walter E. “Wally”

Umphrey, Christa

University of Colorado Archives

University of Idaho Library

Unsworth, Michael

Van Campen, Bonnie, for the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs

Vasquez, Andrea

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Montana

Vezzetti, Judy

Vrooman, Nicholas

Waite, Leoti

Walker, Willie

Walter, Dave

Washington State Historical Society Research Center

Wayrynen, Billie

Wayrynen, Gene

Weber, Eduard

Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project

Wheatly, John R.

Wheeler, John D., Jr.

Winters, Barbara

Woodcock, Delorian

Wren, Andrew Addison

Wunderwald, Garry

Yates, Russell

YWCA, Helena Chapter

Zeman, Carrie

Calendar

MHS Exhibits

Temporary "An Honest Try: Rodeo Bronzes by Bob Scriver," Montana Reflections Gallery, through September 2003

"Treasure State Treasures," Northeast Gallery, April 10, 2003

"Documenting the Corps of Discovery," Lobby, through September 2003

Ongoing "Montana Homeland," the story of Montana's history

"F. J. Haynes, Photographer," closing June 2003

The Mackay Gallery of Charles M. Russell Art

Special Events

Events are free and will be held in the MHS Boo Auditorium, 12:00–1:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

March 31–April 1 Annual Montana Heritage Project Student Conference, Wingate Inn, Helena

April 10 "Treasure State Treasures" exhibit opening, MHS lobby, 7:30 p.m.––9:00 p.m.

April 16 Jon Axline, "The Bridges of Lewis and Clark County"

May 13 John Hearne, "Thomas Francis Meagher: Revolutionary and Democrat," 7:00 p.m.

May 21 Susan R. Near, "A Treasure from Montana's Museum: The USS *Montana* Silver Service"

Spring Hours

Museum/Galleries

Labor Day–Memorial Day, Monday-Friday, 8–5, Saturday, 9–5, Closed Sundays and holidays. Memorial Day–Labor Day, Monday-Friday, 8–6, Saturday-Sunday, 9–6. Adults, $3; children, $1; family maximum, $8. Members free

Library/Archives

Monday-Friday, 9–5, Saturday, 9–1. Library, archival materials, and reference help. Closed holidays. Free

Photograph Archives

Monday-Friday, 9–5. Morning hours by appointment only. Free

Original Governors Mansion

April-May, Tuesday-Saturday, 12–5. Memorial Day–Labor Day, Tuesday-Sunday, 12–5, last tour begins at 4. Adults, $2; children, $1. Members free

Capitol

April-May, Saturday 9–4, Sunday, 12–4, weekday tours by reservation only. Free

To arrange guided group tours or to confirm hours, call 406-444-4789.

Montana Historical Society (406) 444-2694 http://www.montanahistoricalsociety.org

225 North Roberts St. P.O. Box 201201 Helena, MT 59620-1201

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